

amounts of coal delivered on the water front within two to twenty miles of New York for \$4.50 a ton.

THE OPERATORS DID NOT RAISE THE PRICE OF COAL AT THE MINES DURING THE STRIKE.

THE RAILROADS DID NOT RAISE FREIGHT RATES. THE COST OF COAL STORAGE AND DELIVERY WAS NOT INCREASED BY THE STRIKE.

BUT COAL SOLD IN NEW YORK CITY AT FROM \$21 TO \$25 A TON AND HIGHER.

WHO GOT THE PROFIT?

WHO WILL GET THE PROFIT?

AND IF THE EXORBITANT RATE IS KEPT UP, WHO IS GOING TO GET THE PROFIT?

Maybe the retail dealers of New York bring their coal from the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania in steam yachts.

Maybe they bring it in automobiles.

Maybe they have to hire long-distance pedestrians to carry it in paper bags.

However they get it here, the operation must be excessively expensive, else why charge \$15 a ton in New York for coal that costs \$4.50 a ton f. o. b. at the mines?

"There won't be any coal in town on Monday when the new schedule goes into operation," say the retail dealers, "but we reduce the price from \$21 to \$15 just the same. We do this, not because we want to and not because we need the money, but because you poor people of New York might think it up to us to do something."

"HOT AIR" WON'T WARM A FLAT.

This is not the exact language of the retail coal dealers; it is what they say in effect. But the coal consumers of New York and the dwellers in apartment houses and flat houses who are wearing overcoats and furs to their meals are likely to announce in no uncertain tones that hot air does not make fuel for furnaces nor supply steam.

At the meeting of the retail dealers, held in a cold room in Vienna Hall yesterday afternoon, many of them protested against any reduction at this time. According to the report of the meeting given out by the dealers themselves these protestors based their objections to fixing the price of anthracite at \$15 a ton on the fact that the supply is short and to reduce the price would make the people want coal.

The guiding minds of the Retail Dealers' Association overruled the short-sighted men, who wanted to keep prices at a prohibitive figure. It certainly is hard, they explained, to have to let go of a good thing that lasted for five months, but it is better to let go of it gradually than have to let go all at once.

THEY WILL LET GO GRADUALLY.

Briefly, the proposition is this: The retail dealers of New York, knowing that there would be a public outcry for lower prices of coal directly the operation of the mines is resumed, took time by the forelock and directed a reduction before the strike is officially declared off. It is their intention to charge \$15 a ton as long as they can, then \$12 a ton, then \$10 a ton and so on down to \$7 a ton, which figure they hope to stall off until about February. This is plainly apparent, and from the standpoint of the retail dealers, it is good business, for when the people begin to cry out for coal at lower prices next week the dealers will say:

"What are you hollering about? Didn't we reduce the price \$6 a ton on domestic sizes last Friday, three days before the Miners' Convention was called?"

And if they are allowed to do it, they will nurse the public along—jolly the public along is a better expression—with gradual reductions, all the time making a profit that would cause a pawnbroker to blush with shame.

SALES AGENTS NOT TO BLAME.

Persons who go to buy coal and are confronted with the arbitrary rate of \$15 a ton, will be told by the dealers that the middlemen—the sales agents who handle the railroad coal—are responsible. There is no basis for this assertion.

It is given out from authority at the headquarters of the operators to-day that any dealer can go to the mines and buy all the coal he wants at the October schedule rate—\$4.50 a ton.

As soon as the mines are open the supply will be distributed along these lines, agreed upon by the Coal Operators' Association:

First—The public institutions, hospitals, public schools, gas, electric and water-works and transportation companies.

Second—To retail dealers.

Third—To middlemen.

It will be seen from this that the operators have placed the retail dealers ahead of the middlemen in the scheme of distribution.

Any dealer who says that he is forced to pay an exorbitant price for his coal because he has to buy it from a broker is dealing in that commodity so popular with retail coal dealers—hot air.

## RETAILERS ARE NOW IN A TRAP OF THEIR OWN.

While residents of the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx were paying \$25 a ton for hard coal residents of the borough of Brooklyn were paying \$15 a ton and residents of the borough of Richmond were paying \$8 a ton.

It costs no more to receive and deliver coal on the island of Manhattan or in the borough of the Bronx than it does in the borough of Brooklyn or the borough of Richmond.

Retail dealers are saying that it will be weeks and weeks and weeks before the coal supply will warrant the reduction of the price to \$7 a ton or less. Retail dealers in Brooklyn are almost unanimous in the opinion that it will be possible to sell coal at \$7 a ton at a profit in two weeks.

From all appearances the New York retailers have tried to hog the market in anticipation of a cold snap, and in the language of the day they have been "stung."

THEY HAVE BEEN STORING COAL.

All through the summer they have been buying coal throughout the East and storing it up in their yards, doing it out at big prices to persons they had to supply, but hanging on for the highest price they could get. If the prospects of a settlement of the strike were remote to-day the retailers of Manhattan would be in position to demand \$50 or more a ton and get the money. But, instead of selling the coal and taking a fair profit they have held on and now they face a chance of losing some of the money they have made during the strike.

Here is an estimate of the amount of coal held by the big retailers on which they stand to lose by selling at \$15 a ton:

Curtis & Blaisdell.....	700 tons
Burns Bros.....	450 tons
Hencken & Wellerbrock.....	500 tons
H. L. Herbert & Co.....	300 tons
John J. Stevens.....	200 tons
Theodore Tonn.....	200 tons
Robert Gordon & Sons.....	500 tons
Moquin, Offerman & Heisenbuttel.....	800 tons

WHY THEY CAN'T SELL OUT.

A natural question is: Why don't these dealers close out now at \$20 a ton while they have a chance? Why don't they contract to close out next week at \$15 a ton and get away with a small loss?

The answer is that they would be willing to, but they cannot.

Since the public has become convinced that the strike will be called off next Monday there has been no demand for coal. Everybody is holding off.

## WHAT IT COSTS TO GET A TON OF COAL INTO YOUR HOUSE.

Delivered at Perth Amboy, Elizabethport, Port Johnson, Guttenburg, Newburg, Hoboken, Weehawken or Edgewater.....	\$4.50
Freight to New York (average).....	.17 1/2
Discharging at dock.....	.25
Storage and Delivery.....	.50

Total.....\$5.42 1/2  
Manhattan dealers' price to-day, \$21 a ton.  
Brooklyn dealers' price to-day, \$15 a ton.  
Staten Island dealers' price to-day, \$8 a ton.

Only those who are compelled to buy are making purchases, and they are taking in as little as possible.

All of which explains why the retail dealers of Manhattan are so anxious to make the people believe that there is no chance of a reduction in the price of coal until the snow flies, and the mines are turning it out in such quantities that the railroads will be unable to carry it away.

## THEY SAY NEW YORK DEALERS WERE HOGGISH.

Here are some expressions of opinion from Brooklyn dealers who have been selling household sizes of anthracite at \$15 a ton ever since the short-age came about after the strike was declared:

Kelsey & Loughlin—We will not cut the price of coal on Monday, but we will just as soon as coal begins to come from the mines. During the strike we have been able to supply our customers with a portion of their regular supply of coal. We have had many applications from Manhattan, but were forced to turn them down. When coal comes to market the prices will drop rapidly.

Charles H. Reynolds & Sons—I look for a reduction in the price of coal to \$7 a ton in ten days or two weeks. If coal is kept out of the hands of the speculators and the wholesalers keep their word and sell at the list price there is no reason why consumers should not get it at \$6 a ton.

There has been rank speculation in coal in Manhattan, and the speculators have been caught. They will have to sell out as soon as they can, which will tend to make prices lower sooner than would be the case otherwise. The Manhattan men saw an opportunity to get the money and they have been getting it all summer and fall. The fact that they have ordered a reduction in price to \$15 convicts them of extortion. They will be in worse shape on Monday than they are to-day, because less coal will be coming to market.

Nelson Brothers—A pronounced reduction will be felt as soon as the first supply of coal from the mines reaches this market.

Bacon & Co.—One reason why the price of coal has been lower in Brooklyn than in Manhattan was because the dealers here had larger stocks at the beginning of the strike and hoarded their supply more carefully. Coal should sell at \$7 a ton in two weeks.

A representative of Moquin, Offerman & Heisenbuttel—If a reasonable supply of coal can be got to New York the price should not be higher than \$7 on Nov. 10.

## DEALERS DON'T SELL AT REDUCTION TO-DAY.

With a view to ascertaining just what the condition of the coal supply in this city is, inquiries were made of the dealers to-day.

J. Samuel Smoot, President of the Retail Coal Dealers' Association, who has an office at No. 639 Sixth avenue, said:

"It will cost you \$21 a ton."

"But has not the price been reduced to \$15?" he was asked.

"That is the price for Monday," said Mr. Smoot. "Now, if I were you, I would not get any coal to-day unless it was absolutely necessary. The price will be down to \$6 a ton and that's worth saving. I can sell it to you to-day at less than \$12, but on Monday you can get it for \$15."

"Why is that?" asked the questioner.

Now Here's Something Smooth.

"Well, it's this way," explained Mr. Smoot. "The members of the Retail Coal Dealers' Association met yesterday and decided that the price of coal to-day and the price in deference to the public clamor. Of course they would have preferred to keep it up much longer, but they did not think it wise. You may believe it or not, but the coal which we have on hand now has cost us an exorbitant price. We should like to work it all off at a price that would save us our money, but we were afraid that if we held it off the public would not buy at all until the new supply of coal got into the market. Then the price would go way down. We decided that it was better to sell what we have left at \$15 a ton and save part of our money than to run the risk of not being able to sell it for more than \$7 or \$8."

"We, therefore, fixed on Monday for the cut. Meanwhile I'd advise you to wait until then. If you must have coal I could send you over a few bags as a favor, but I won't run until Monday, when I would be able to sell you all you wanted at \$15 a ton."

Great appreciation having been expressed to this kind offer, the interview ended.

A. J. Forman, of No. 204 East Seventy-seventh street, was asked his price for a ton of furnace coal.

Hasn't Any Hard Coal.

"I can let you have a ton of canal coal at \$5," he said, "but I have not a pound of hard coal in my place. I have tried to get it, but have been unable."

"What about this coal that is being offered here at \$21 a ton by some of the dealers?"

"There is mighty little of it, and what

there is is pretty poor stuff. It is washery coal, 35 per cent. slate. The dealers have paid exorbitant prices for it, and they are trying to get rid of it at the same rate. The newspaper talk about there being a lot of coal coming into this market now is all humbug. It isn't so. There is no chance for good coal for nearly two weeks. The men won't get to work before Tuesday and by the time any of the coal gets to this market in appreciable quantities it will be well along into the second week.

"I have been selling canal coal for furnaces to a lot of my customers and they have managed to get along with it by being careful. I have some soft coal at \$6 a ton but not much."

Soft Coal at \$6 a Ton.

The man at the Columbus Coal Company, No. 131 West Ninety-ninth street, said they had not a pound of hard coal in the place.

"And soft coal?"

"We've got some of that at \$8 a ton."

"Haven't the prices been cut?"

"Not Monday," he said. "You've got to pay \$8 to-day."

Robert Stevenson & Son, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street and Rucker avenue, reported that they hadn't a pound of hard or soft coal at any price. Said their representative:

"I've been trying to get a bostford for three days but I haven't been able to. Powell & Titus, No. 706 Fulton street, Brooklyn, were asked for a ton of stove coal.

"We can let you have a ton of No. 2 for \$12," he said. "It will cost you \$12. That's the best we can do."

Will They Stick at \$15?

A representative of Gordon & Son, Forty-sixth street and North River, said:

"The rapidity with which coal prices will fall will depend upon the prices made by the wholesalers. The \$15 price of course will be in the air, and when that is exhausted prices will tumble. Some dealers have none on hand and they will be forced to buy at a price that will leave them no profit. I think we will be able to sell what is now on hand at less than \$15 until new supply in ten days."

Jacob Elitz, of No. 556 West Fifty-fifth street, said:

"I expect to see coal at \$4.50 a ton within two weeks. The present supply, for which big prices were paid, cannot last long."

No Hard Coal, He.

"Have you no stove or furnace sizes?"

"No, a bit. It's being quoted by the few who have it at \$15 a ton to-day and was yesterday, but we have none to sell. We are selling soft coal at \$7."

Joshua Rodgers, No. 402 Bridge street, said:

"We have only No. 2 put for sale at \$12 a ton. We have for other sizes none to-day. These men who are selling stove and range coal at \$15 a ton are really selling it for \$10 and \$11. I don't think it will be long before they will be forced to deliver it before December."

On the coal now in his possession."

Theodore F. Tonn supplies most of Harlem and the Bronx with coal from his yard at Twelfth avenue and One Hundred and Thirty-third street. "A few days before the cut to \$15 was decided upon," he said to-day, "I bought 800 tons at \$17.50 and a lot of soft coal at \$5.50. You can see about where I stand on the new rates, with the prospect of additional cuts. We are between the devil and the deep sea. The public is on one side and the wholesaler on the other. The best we can get is the worst of it."

Robert Thedford, whose coal-yard is at Fifty-fifth street and North River, said:

"The retailer is in a bad position. Most of us bought a big surplus supply at big prices, but if the wholesalers cut the price to \$5 a ton we will sell at a fair profit and stand the loss on the immense amount we already have in our yards. The trouble is that the coal now being sent out at reduced prices is of the cheapest variety. I heard of a lot the other day, but when I went to look at it I found it almost worthless. The retailer stands to lose about \$8 or \$10 a

## MITCHELL SURE MEN WILL OBEY.

President of the Miners Is Confident that He Can Overcome Opposition to Ending Coal Strike.

FIVE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIONS.

President Roosevelt Closely Watching the Progress of Events in the Mining Situation and Will Hasten Along the End.

(Special to The Evening World.)

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Oct. 18.—Delegates to the Mine Workers' Convention to be held on Monday, elected at meetings of the locals last night, were instructed to be guided by the advice of President Mitchell in voting upon the operators' proposition for arbitration.

Other locals are electing to-day. Some opposition to accepting the plan is expected, but President Mitchell indicates that he is certain the resolution he desires, for an immediate return to work and a submission of all questions at issue to the board appointed by the President, will be carried.

The present opposition may be swept away by President Mitchell's explanations to the convention of the conditions.

There are these objections:

1. That the men are not assured of the positions and places they formerly held.

2. That they are not assured all will be re-employed.

3. That President Roosevelt was requested to appointing the commission by the operators.

4. That it is not evident how the commission will investigate the conditions and whether the officers of the union will be allowed to represent the strikers before the convention.

5. That it is not certain the finding of the commission, which may take a couple of months to reach, will be effective from the date the men return to work.

If President Mitchell can clear up these points, it is no doubt then that the vote will be unanimous and without discussion. He declines to discuss either one of the points, but he is believed that he has such assurances regarding each from President Roosevelt that his explanation to the convention will be satisfactory to the men.

President Mitchell is supremely confident of his ability to treat the convention. He has virtually assured President Roosevelt that the convention will vote for a resolution and that the men will be at work before the end of the week. He has also assured the officers of the organization, whose men are not quite clear about their plans of settlement, but that opposition is based largely upon the fact that the men do not know the conditions and that they will, when they understand them, have no objection to the course President Mitchell will pursue.

It is understood that the commission will receive officers of the union as representatives of the strikers because it would be a stupendous task to hear a committee from each one of the seventy-five operating companies. Just as it would be to receive and hear the testimony of a representative of each company.

Preparations continue to-day for the resumption of work. Mules are being taken back to the mines, cars are being loaded and the machinery at the collieries gotten in condition for operations. The operators are confident that the men will be at work before the end of the week, but the strikers will not get former places if these places are already filled by non-union men.

They will not declare either that there will be places for all the strikers. They will declare that the men will be employed all we need and they will be given the places for which we believe them best suited," they say.

PRESIDENT HAS BIG INTEREST IN STRIKE.

(Special to The Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—President Roosevelt having disposed of the preliminaries in his effort to re-establish peace between the striking miners and coal operators, is now looking to the end and will hasten the work of the arbitration commission.

Interest in the affair has not flagged a jot, and he is deeply interested in the doings in the mining regions. The President has received assurance that the men will vote to resume work, but is a bit concerned about the disquieting reports of opposition to the settlement plan and a possible clash between the miners and non-union men when the mines are reopened.

There is no doubt that Congress will repay the commissioners all they expend, and it is probable that each of them will receive for his services, probably \$20 a day.

Carroll D. Wright's standing on the Commission has been definitely determined by this authoritative statement just issued:

"The Commission is so constituted that it will require a two-thirds vote to settle any point upon which there is a dispute."

This means that Col. Wright is not to be regarded as a member of the commission in passing on questions at issue before it. An official of the War Department with a great deal of experience said:

"In all military boards and courts the recorder has no vote, but he is the man who runs the board."

Col. Wright will keep the records, summon witnesses, carry out the orders of the commission, and perhaps prepare its report under instructions.

President Roosevelt has discussed the work of the commission with Gen. Wilson, Col. Wright and E. W. Parker, and plans were mapped out. Other members of the board are likely to call to-day and go over the situation.

MISS CARBONE TO MARRY.

Pretty Girl to Be the Bride of George Mare, of Jamaica, L. I.

Miss Tessie Carbone, daughter of Charles Carbone, of New York City, is to become the bride of George Mare, a popular young man of Jamaica, L. I.

The wedding will take place at the hotel, where the bride-to-be, the bride-to-be, will be spending the night.

The bride-to-be is a pretty girl of charming manners and has a wide circle of acquaintances.

## MISS ANNA HICKEY, SISTER OF BLACKMAILER'S VICTIM.



## FRENCH STRIKE MAY BE GENERAL.

Labor Confederation in Sympathy with 160,000 Miners May Shut Down All Industries.

PARIS, Oct. 18.—The General Confederation of Labor is considering the question of a strike of all the trades unions of France in favor of eight hours' work per day and old age pensions, &c., as demanded by the striking miners.

A manifesto to the various unions is said to have been drafted, pointing out that the moment is most favorable for such a movement and asking them to deliberate thereon. A meeting will be held next Monday to decide on the action to be taken.

The miners' strike continues peacefully. The leaders declare that 160,000 men are out.

GIRL KIDNAPPED LITTLE SISTER.

Did Not Want Child to Remain in the Care of Her Stepfather, so Fifteen-Year-Old Girl Took Her.

THEY EMBRACED IN COURT.

"Emma!"

With these joyful exclamations two little girls clasped one another in their arms in Magistrate Higginsbotham's court, Williamsburg, to-day.

Emma Daub, fifteen years old, had been arraigned on a summons charging her with kidnapping her stepfather. Emma admitted that yesterday she intercepted Annie on her way to school and took her to live with her at No. 1618 Lafayette street.

"I did it because I loved my sister, and didn't want her to live with a man who wasn't her father."

The man Emma referred to is Charles Jaeger, of No. 22 Lawton street. Nine years ago Fred Daub married Catherine Berch. He at that time was a widower with one child, the girl Emma.

In the course of time another daughter was born and named Agnes. Shortly afterward Daub died. The widow married again, only to lose her second husband by death. After laying No. 2 in his grave she listened to the wooing of Charles Jaeger and made him No. 3.

This husband managed to live, while she last week followed her earlier husbands to the other shore, consumption carrying her off.

When the mother married her second husband Emma went to live with an aunt, Mrs. McLaughlin, at No. 516 Lafayette street. On her deathbed the mother asked Jaeger to take care of Annie. Jaeger, kneeling by the bed, vowed he would.

But Emma was not satisfied to have it so, saying Jaeger was no relative of her, and that she loved her foster-sister and wanted to have her. Jaeger, refusing to part with the child, Emma waited for her little sister to go to school yesterday and took her to the house of her aunt.

Mrs. McLaughlin in court to-day promised to care for both children, as long as she lived. The two little girls looked longingly at one another. Jaeger looked ugly and the Magistrate looked thoughtful.

"Well, Mr. Jaeger," finally said the Court, "you may have some rights, so I'll adjourn the case to Nov. 11. However, it seems to me the little girl ought to be allowed to live together, especially when their aunt is willing to take care of them."

Then it was that Emma and Annie flew into each other's arms and told how glad they were.

SOUTHERNER A SUICIDE.

Prominent Citizen and Churchman Found Hanging in Woods.

(Special to The Evening World.)

WILKESBORO, N. C., Hampton Barnett, of Elk Township, committed suicide by hanging himself with a rope in the woods.

He was a prominent citizen, fifty years old, a leading member of the Baptist Church and leaves a family. There is no reason known for the suicide.

ASKS HALF OF WIFE'S ALIMONY.

Lawyer Threatens to Become Public Ward if Sister's Charity Is Not Divided.

Frederick Sommers, a lawyer ordered by the Court to pay his wife \$5 a week alimony, now wants his wife to support him, because, he says, he is not able to make a living for himself in New York. The attorney told Supt. Merwin, of the Outdoor Poor Department, that he had decided to become a public charge unless his wife divided with him the \$5 a week, which has been paid by his sister.

Sommers, according to Supt. Merwin, came to New York from the West about three years ago and married a widow twenty years his senior. He entered a suit for divorce, but the plea was not allowed, and he was ordered to pay his wife \$5 a week. His sister went on his bond and has been forced to pay the alimony.

The Superintendent says the man told him that his wife must give him half of the allowance and pay his way back to Cheyenne, Wyo., where he says he can make a living, or he will become a public ward. Mr. Merwin took this statement as a joke, but Sommers waited until his sister was in arrears and got a restraining order. It was dissolved when the case was explained to the Judge.

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